

Dear CT State Legislators: Committee on the Environment:

Re: public hearing testimony February 28, 2014.

I think it is absolutely essential that we protect our public and environment. Natural gas frackers do not have to abide by the laws that help protect us: the Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act since US Congress allowed this industry to bypass these laws.

Countless stories of contaminated ground water, faucets on fire, earthquakes, radioactivity and illness surround this activity. I do not want CT to allow fracking waste to be imported or travel through CT.

Where do you think this waste will go? Guilford? West Hartford? Litchfield? Think again; probably Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport, the areas with the highest percentage of polluting industries.

The Greater New Haven Water Pollution Control Authority in New Haven already trucks in sludge from all over the state to incinerate in our community releasing toxins such as mercury, hydrogen chloride gas and particulate matter. Almost half of sludge incinerated comes from outside our region. We are like a funnel for wastes that go down the drain for the state, the toilet of the state so to speak.

GNHWPCA requests permission to expand the waste water treatment capacity in New Haven in order to "treat" rainwater that represents 98% of the extra fluid entering our sewer system during rain events. They already have ample extra capacity (115 MG wet weather vs 26 MG of waste water from non rain sources in the region). What would stop them from accepting fracking waste from PA when they already accept sludge from outside our region for money. Their previous actions speak loudly.

CT has or had a robust conservation plan and investment in renewable energy funded by individual rate payers through CT Innovations. Last year the State of CT raided these funds that were earmarked for energy conservation and investment in renewables in order to balance the state budget. Has this money been repaid?

Can we trust the state to "regulate" this industry in the absence of the federal legislation meant to protect us?

My answer is NO, we can not trust regulations to protect us from these dangers. Please support SB 237 to ban importation of fracking waste in CT.

Thank you for allowing public comment on this important issue.

Sincerely
Lynne Bonnett
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